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December 17, 1997

STOP CODE 1300

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: MM Docket No. 87-268

Dear Mr. Salas:

Pursuant to the Commission's Public Notice in the referenced proceeding dated December 2, 1997, we are submitting herewith on behalf of Gateway Communications, Inc. ("Gateway"), licensee of Station WOWK-TV, Huntington, West Virginia, the original and four (4) copies of an Engineering Statement prepared for Gateway by the engineering consulting firm of Cohen, Dippell and Everist, P.C. The Engineering Statement is responsive to the proposal of the Association of Maximum Service Television, Inc. and other broadcasters to assign DTV channel 39 to Huntington, West Virginia, for use by Station WOWK-TV.

Should there be any questions concerning this matter, please communicate with the undersigned.

Very truly yours,



John R. Wilner

JRW/vih

Enclosure

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ENGINEERING STATEMENT
ON BEHALF OF
GATEWAY COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
RE RESPONSE TO EX PARTE FILING BY
MSTV IN MM DOCKET NO. 87-268
DECEMBER 1997

COHEN, DIPPELL AND EVERIST, P.C.
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
RADIO AND TELEVISION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

COHEN, DIPPELL AND EVERIST, P. C.

City of Washington)
) ss
District of Columbia)

Donald G. Everist, being duly sworn upon his oath, deposes and states that:

He is a graduate electrical engineer, a Registered Professional Engineer in the District of Columbia, and is President of Cohen, Dippell and Everist, P.C., Consulting Engineers, Radio - Television, with offices at 1300 L Street, N.W., Suite 1100, Washington, D.C. 20005;

That his qualifications are a matter of record in the Federal Communications Commission;

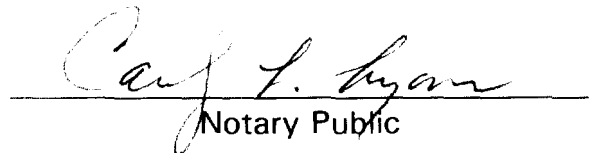
That the attached engineering report was prepared by him or under his supervision and direction and

That the facts stated herein are true of his own knowledge, except such facts as are stated to be on information and belief, and as to such facts he believes them to be true.



Donald G. Everist
District of Columbia
Professional Engineer
Registration No. 5714

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of December, 1997.


Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 2/28/98

This Engineering Statement has been prepared on behalf of Gateway Communications, Inc. ("Gateway"), licensee of Television Stations WBNG-TV, Binghamton, NY; WTAJ(TV), Altoona, PA and WOWK-TV, Huntington, WV. This engineering statement addresses the ex parte submission filed by the Association for Maximum Service Television, Inc. ("MSTV")¹ regarding a change in DTV channel for WOWK-TV from that specified in the Sixth Report and Order in MM Docket 87-268 ("Sixth Report"). The Commission assigned in the Sixth Report DTV Channel 54 to WOWK-TV. In its Petition for Reconsideration² filed in June 1997, Gateway recommended that the Commission reconsider this assignment and suggested DTV Channel 39³ as a more viable alternative.

Gateway has reviewed the MSTV ex parte filing ("MSTV filing") and notes that MSTV recognizes and urges that a DTV frequency change for WOWK-TV is warranted. MSTV recommends that DTV Channel 36 be assigned for use by WOWK-TV. Furthermore, it is noted that the MSTV filing makes other changes to the Charleston-Huntington market.

¹"Ex Parte Submission Based on New Technical Discoveries to Help the Commission Improve the DTV Table of Allotments/Assignments", submitted by the Association of Maximum Service Television, Inc. and Other Broadcasters, November 20, 1997.

²"Engineering Statement in Support of Petition for Reconsideration MM Docket 87-268 on Behalf of Gateway Communications, Inc. June 1997"

³Gateway recommended that a simple change of assigning the Commission's DTV Channel 54 from WOWK-TV to WKRP-TV and assigning the DTV Channel 39 from WKRP-TV to WOWK-TV. This would reduce the anticipated first adjacent DTV Channel 55 assigned in the same market.

Gateway's first preference is the allotment of DTV Channel 39 to WOWK-TV for the reasons advanced in Gateway's June submission. However, Gateway is willing to accept DTV Channel 36, as advanced by the MSTV filing as an alternate should the Commission determine that Channel 36 will best serve the public interest.